

THE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

# **National Surveys of Women's Health Care Providers and the Public:**

## **Views and Practices on Medical Abortion**

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## Methodology

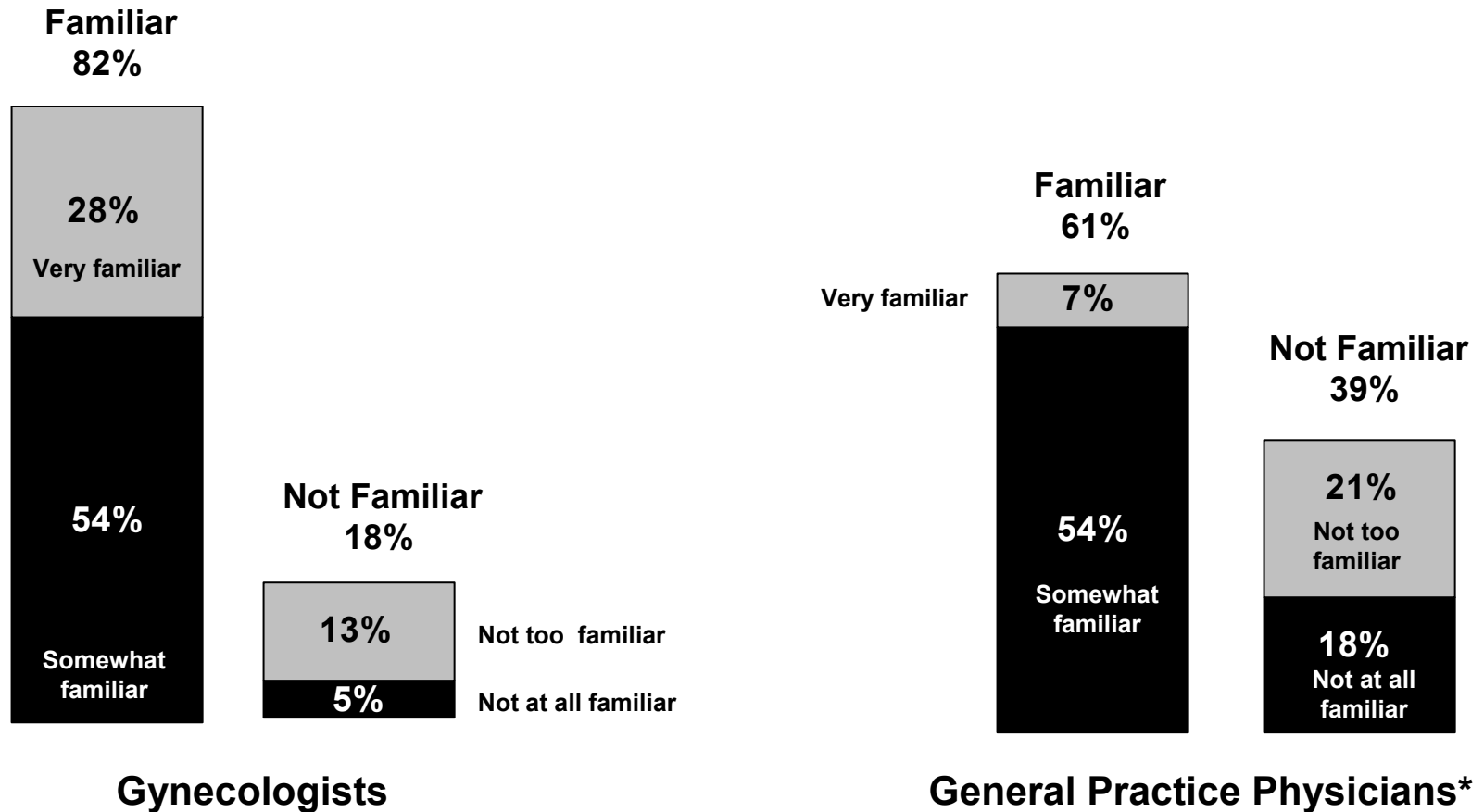
The Kaiser Family Foundation's *2001 National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion* is a national random-sample telephone survey of 790 health care providers, including 595 gynecologists (OBGYN) and 195 family practitioners, internists, and general practitioners (referred to as "general practice physicians" (GPP)). The questionnaire was designed by staff at the Kaiser Family Foundation and Princeton Survey Research Associates (PSRA) and analysis was conducted by staff at the Foundation. Fieldwork was conducted by telephone by PSRA between May 15 and August 28, 2001. The sample was drawn from the American Medical Association's Masterfile. The final response rate was 59 percent. The data have been weighted by age, gender, and region to be representative of national samples of OBGYNs and GPPs and to account in part for nonresponse. The margin of error is plus or minus 4 percent for gynecologists and plus or minus 7 percent for general practice physicians and may be larger for certain subsets presented in this analysis.

The public data was collected as part of the Foundation's August 2001 *Health News Index*, an ongoing national survey conducted in conjunction with the Harvard School of Public Health to track awareness and knowledge of health issues in the news. The questions were designed and analyzed by the Foundation. Fieldwork was conducted by telephone by PSRA with 1005 adults 18 and older between August 2 and 5, 2001. The margin of error is plus or minus 3 percent for results based on the entire sample, plus or minus 5 percent from those 18-44, and plus or minus 7 percent for men and women 18-44 and may be larger for certain subsets presented in this analysis.

# Chart 1

## FAMILIARITY WITH MIFEPRISTONE

Percent of physicians who say they are familiar with mifepristone...

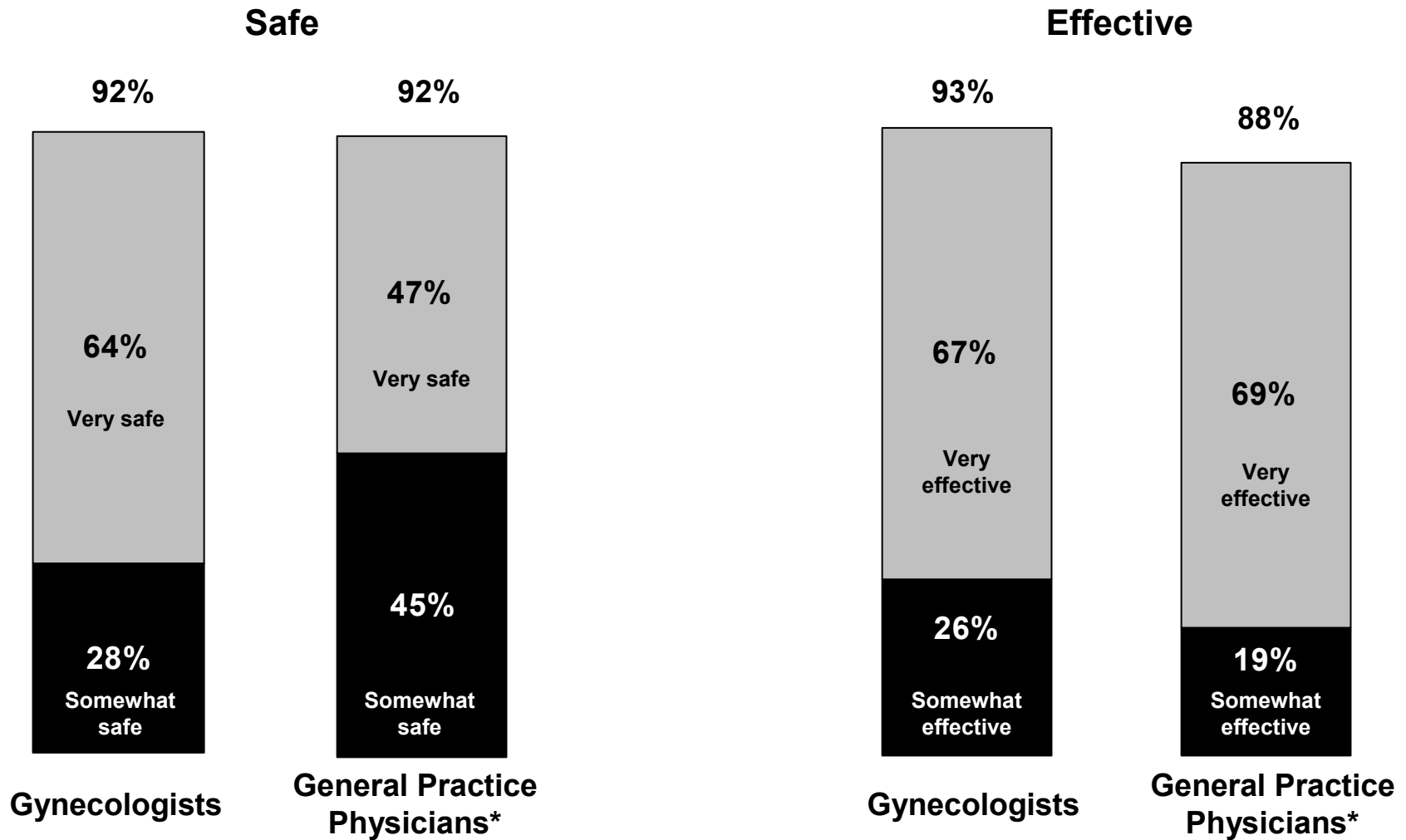


\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

## Chart 2 VIEWS ON SAFETY AND EFFICACY

Percent of physicians *familiar with mifepristone* who say the drug is...



\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

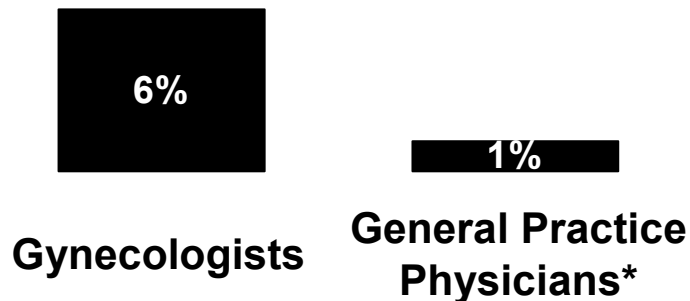
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

### Chart 3

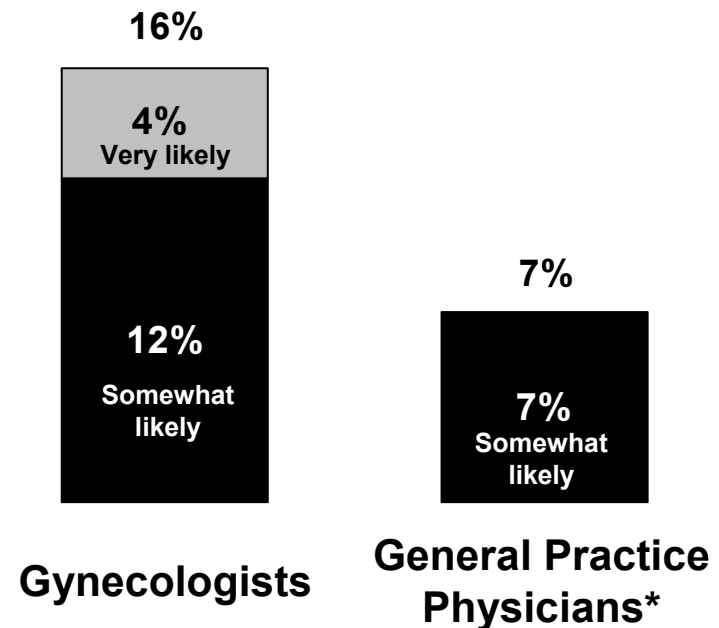
# WHO IS PROVIDING MEDICAL ABORTION? AND WHO WILL PROVIDE IT IN THE NEXT YEAR?

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Percent of physicians who have provided mifepristone since its approval...



Percent of physicians *who have not yet used mifepristone* who say they are likely to provide it in the coming year...



\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

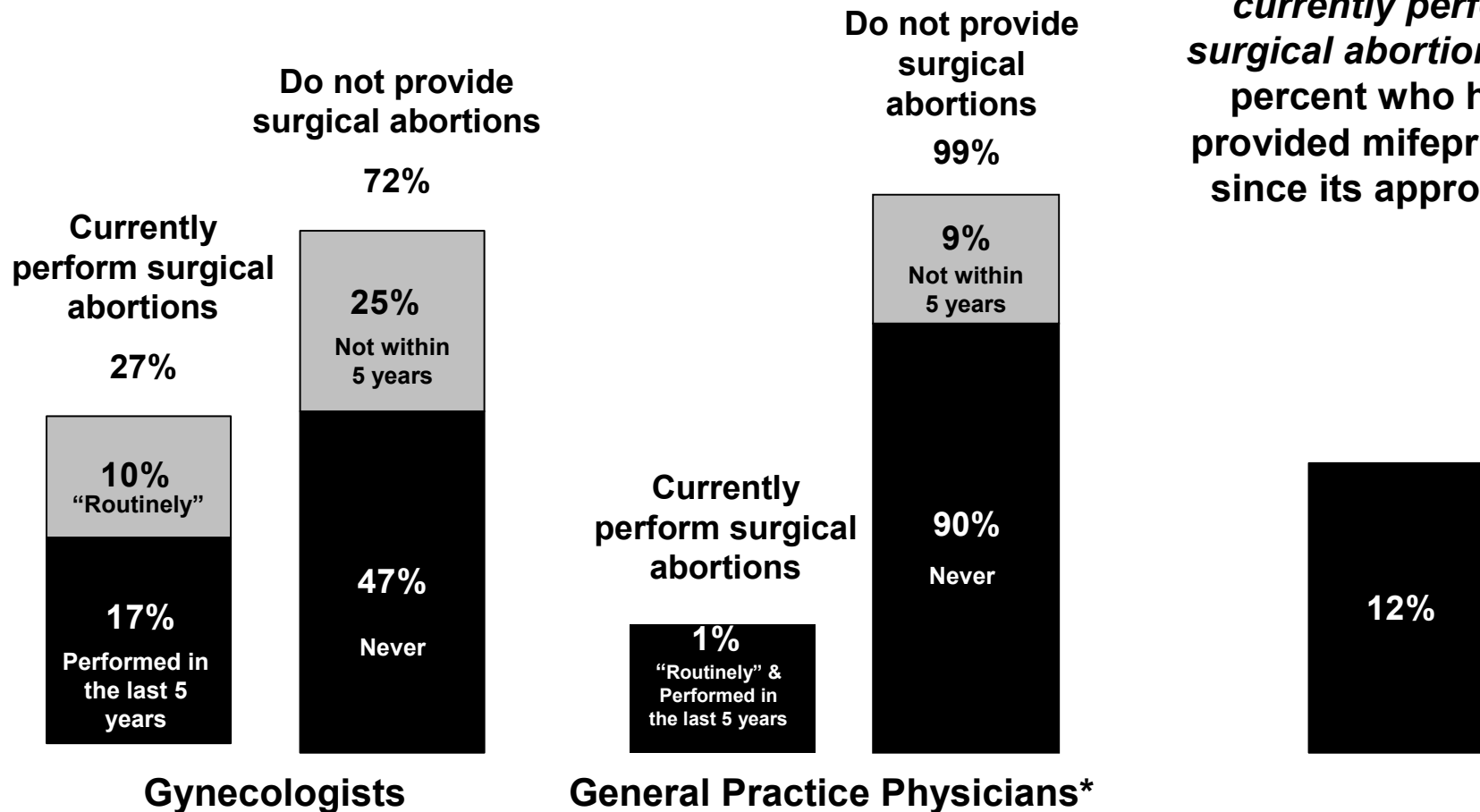
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

Chart 4

# SURGICAL AND MEDICAL ABORTION PRACTICES

## Surgical abortion practices among physicians

Among the 27 percent of gynecologists who currently perform surgical abortions, the percent who have provided mifepristone since its approval...



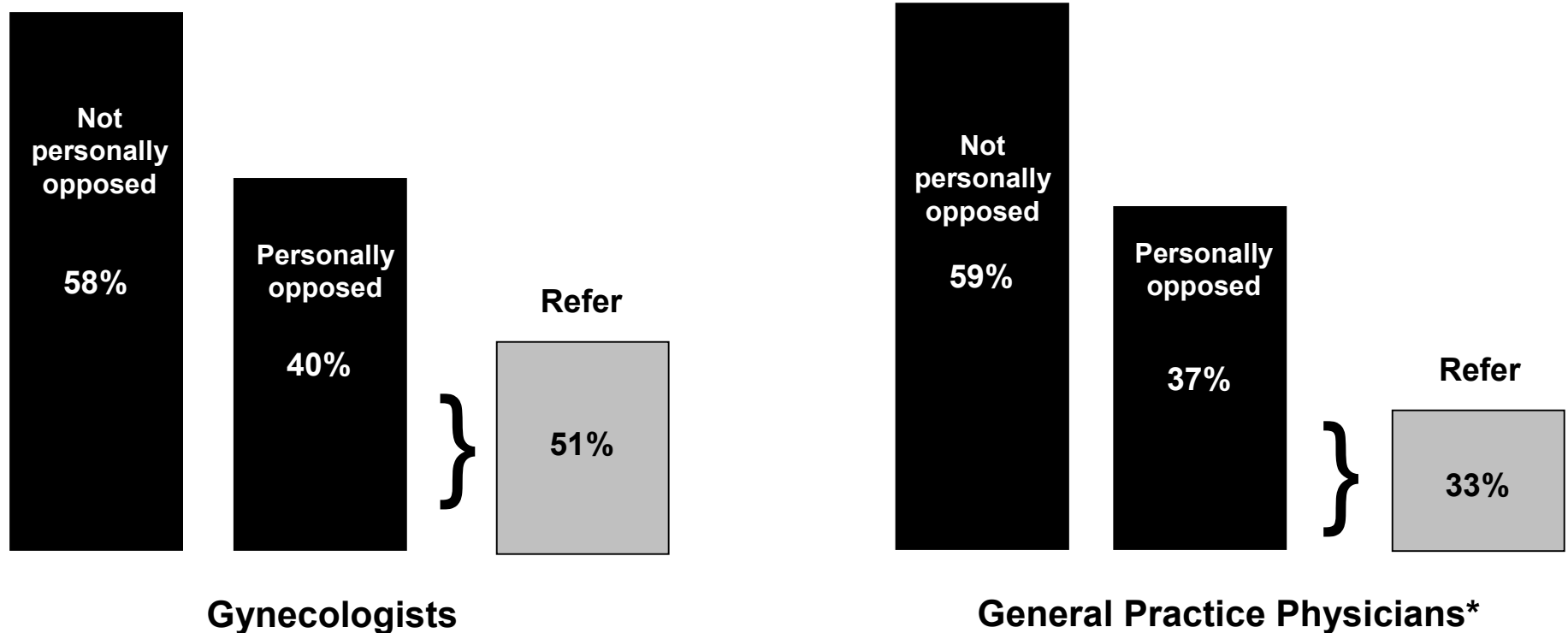
\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

Chart 5

# ATTITUDES TOWARD MEDICAL ABORTION

Percent of physicians *who do not provide mifepristone* who say it is because they are “personally opposed” and the percent of those physicians who refer to other providers ...



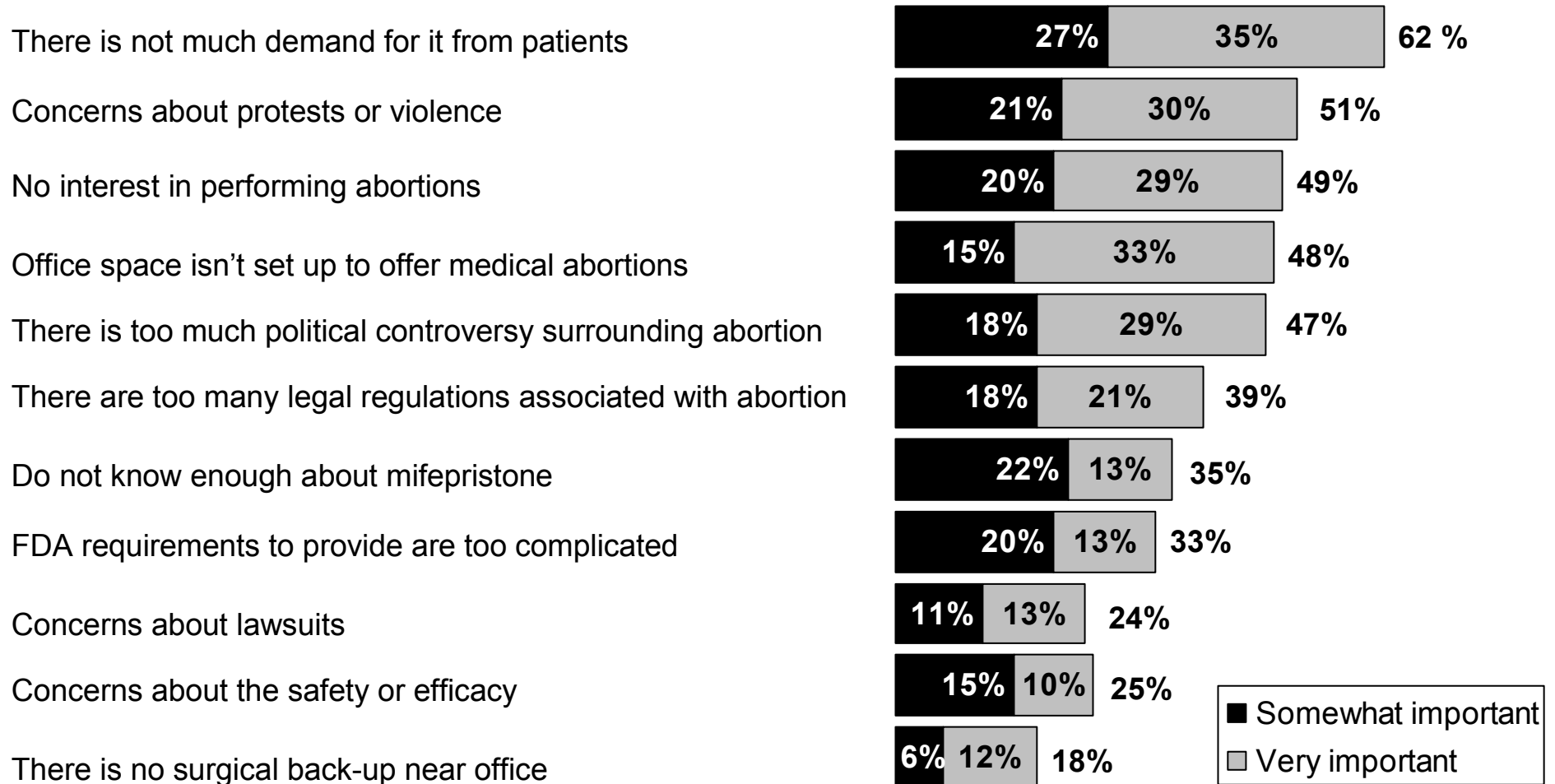
\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women’s Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

## Chart 6

# REASONS FOR NOT PROVIDING MIFEPRISTONE: GYNECOLOGISTS

Percent of gynecologists who do not provide mifepristone for reasons *other than personal opposition...*



\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

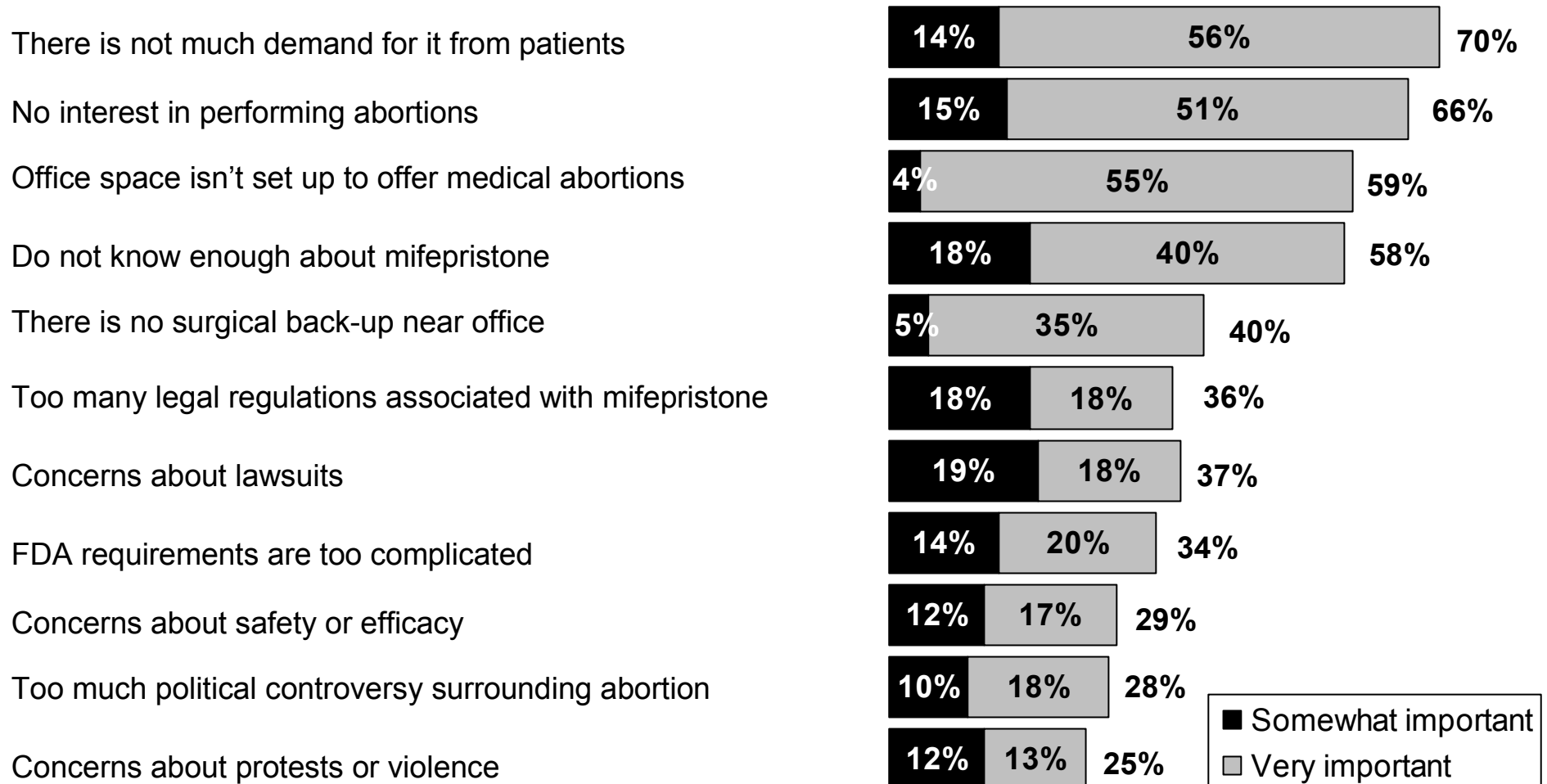
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.



## Chart 7

# REASONS FOR NOT PROVIDING MIFEPRISTONE: GENERAL PRACTICE PHYSICIANS

Percent of general practice physicians\* who do not provide mifepristone for reasons *other than personal opposition...*



\* Includes family practitioners, internists and general practitioners

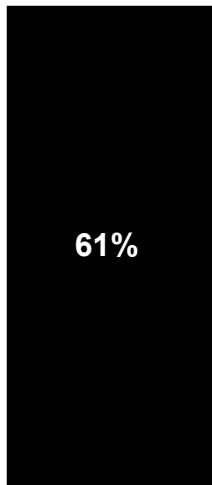
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, National Survey of Women's Health Care Providers on Reproductive Health: Views and Practices on Medical Abortion; conducted May 15 - August 28, 2001.

# Chart 8

## WOMEN'S KNOWLEDGE OF MIFEPRISTONE

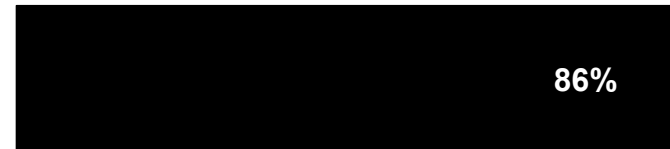
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Percent of women aged 18-44 who have heard of mifepristone (also known as RU486)

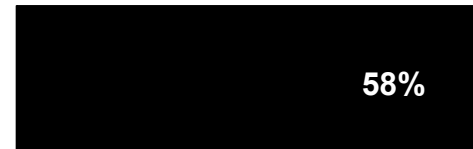


Among the 61 percent of women aged 18-44 who *have heard of mifepristone* the percent who believe\* ...

It is a drug used to TERMINATE pregnancy



It is a drug used to PREVENT unintended or unplanned pregnancy

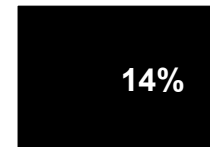


It is the same thing as emergency contraceptive pills



\* Multiple responses accepted

Percent who identify mifepristone ONLY as a drug used to TERMINATE pregnancy...





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